



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

RIN 0648-BA01

[Docket No. 100804324-1265-02]

Fisheries off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish  
Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for the Remainder  
of the 2011 Fishery

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National  
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Agency determination.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the provisions implemented in a  
final rule published on May 11, 2011, pursuant to NFMS'  
emergency authority under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery  
Conservation and Management Act (MSA) will remain in effect for  
the remainder of the 2011 groundfish fishery. The provisions  
included a new rebuilding plan for petrale sole, revised  
rebuilding plans for other overfished species, and revised  
status determination criteria, harvest specifications and a  
precautionary harvest control rule for assessed flatfish  
species. This announcement is required in order to maintain the

current rebuilding plans, harvest specifications and harvest control rule for assessed flatfish species.

DATES: Effective on [Insert date of publication in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES: Background information and documents are available from William W. Stelle, Jr., Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115-0070; or by phone at 206-526-6150.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Williams, 206-526-4646; (fax) 206-526-6736; [Sarah.Williams@noaa.gov](mailto:Sarah.Williams@noaa.gov)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS published a final rule establishing harvest specifications and management measures for most species (75 FR 27508, May 11, 2011), in part pursuant to NMFS' emergency authority under section 305(c) of the MSA. Specifically, that action amended 50 CFR Part 660 to establish new and revised rebuilding plans, establish harvest specifications consistent with those rebuilding plans and new flatfish harvest proxies. Further background information for that action is provided in the preamble text of the May 11, 2011, final rule and in the supporting documents for that action, and is not repeated here.

Opportunity for public comment on the May 11, 2011, final rule was provided. One comment was received on that rule that was not relevant to the emergency provisions.

Therefore, this document announces the agency determination to continue through December 31, 2011, the measures set forth in the May 11, 2011, rule at § 660.40 and Table 2a to part 660, subpart C.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq. and 16 U.S.C. 7001 et seq.

Dated: November 2, 2011.

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Samuel D. Rauch III,  
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

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